CLAIMS:

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A method to test for the ability of a stealth virus infection to induce the production of auto-fluorescent materials in a human or animal subject, comprising collecting one or more body hairs from the subject, illuminating the hairs with light of known wavelengths, and examining the illuminated hairs, using either a fluorescent microscope or a spectrophotometer, for the emission of light at a wavelength different from that used to illuminate the hairs.

2. A method to test for variations in the levels of production of auto-fluorescent materials over time in a stealth virus infected patient by comparing the intensity pattern of the auto-fluorescence seen along the length of a hair fiber, and/or by comparing the intensity of auto-fluorescence seen in hair samples taken at different times during the course of a stealth virus associated illness.

3. The method of claim 2 in which the testing is performed as a way to monitor the effectiveness of anti-stealth virus therapy directed at suppressing stealth virus activity in an infected patient, as shown by a reduction in the intensity of auto-fluorescence in the more recently formed portion of the hair.

4. A method to test for the production of auto-fluorescent materials in a human or animal subject, comprising collecting one or more body hairs from the subject, illuminating the hairs with light of known wavelengths, and examining the illuminated hairs using either a fluorescent microscope or a spectrophotometer for the emission of light at a wavelength different from that used to illuminate the hairs.

5. The method of claim 4 in which the testing is performed as a way to monitor the effectiveness of therapy directed at suppressing the production of auto-fluorescent materials in a human or animal subject.

6. The method of claim 4 in which the hairs are collected from a part of the body that is not normally exposed to sunlight, such as pubic hairs and underarm hairs.

7. The method of claim 4 in which the hairs are collected from freshly shaven beard growth.

8. A method to test for the production of auto-fluorescent materials in a human or animal subject, comprising collecting fingernails or toenails from the subject, illuminating the nails with light of known wavelengths, and examining the illuminated hairs using either a fluorescent microscope or a spectrophotometer for the emission of light at a wavelength different from that used to illuminate the hairs.

9. A method to test for the ability of a stealth virus infection to induce the production of materials in a human or animal subject that can be activated by an energy source other than light, comprising collecting one or more body hairs from the subject, exposing the hairs to the energy source, and examining the energy-exposed hairs for light emission by using a photographic film.

10. The method of claim 9, in which the energy source is provided by any of the following modalities used alone or in combination with one another: radio-frequency radiation, electric field, magnetic field, or ultrasound vibration.